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Arapahoe County appoints new Veteran Service Officer

Henry Mondragón to oversee the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Office at its new location in Greenwood Village

Littleton, Colo. --- Arapahoe County recently appointed Henry Mondragón as the County Veterans Service Officer where he will oversee the program that supports veterans obtaining their federal benefits.

"We are excited to hire Henry as our County Veterans Service Officer," said Don Klemme, Community Resources Director. "With more than 20 years of service, his knowledge and experience will greatly enhance the services we deliver to veterans."

Henry "Hawk" Mondragón says his goal is to reach all Arapahoe County veterans to determine if they are eligible for benefits and to help support them through the application process.

"Over the phone, we can assist vets in applying for their DD-214 (statement of service) which is necessary for eligibility in death benefits," said Mondragón. "Even veterans in assisted living have potential benefits while new vets need to quickly review their situations since they have one year to make claims on "presumptive" issues. We're here to help."

As a former Veterans Service Officer for the State and Jefferson County and serving in Larimer and Weld counties as a state veterans employment specialist, Mondragón has extensive experience in assisting veterans in obtaining employment, training and services. While a state veterans service officer, he also was responsible for the evaluation and training of the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Office.

Mondragon understands the needs of veterans because he's one himself having served two combat tours in Vietnam as a rifleman in the U.S. Marine Corps. He's a graduate of Colorado State University and the University of Northern Colorado. He was the recent organizer of his Vietnam platoon reunion and is a former commander in the Disabled American Veterans, former service officer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and former Commandant of the Marine Corps League, all in Ft. Collins.

Veterans seeking services are encouraged to stop by the new location at 5500 S. Quebec St., Suite 175, Greenwood Village, 80111 or call 303-636-1190.

If you are interested in being a veteran volunteer and helping fellow veterans, call Volunteer Connections, Arapahoe County's volunteer program at 303-738-7938.

To download photos click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CA/>

Photo captions:

- 1) Henry Mondragon appointed as Arapahoe County's Veteran Services Officer.
- 2) Henry "Hawk" Mondragon and Clive "Sonny" Clapsattle, served in Vietnam as riflemen in the U.S. Marine Corp.

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